



MIAMI BEACH

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NO. LTC #258-2009

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: September 28, 2009

SUBJECT: RE-ACCREDITATION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

The purpose of this LTC is to inform the Mayor and Commission that the Fire Department received its Re-Accreditation with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The CFAI meeting was held this year in Dallas on August 27th 2009. This accreditation is a voluntary process predicated on the department involved evaluating itself and the community service levels.

The Fire Department conducted a self assessment answering four basic questions:

1. Is the organization effective?
2. Are the goals objective? Is the mission of the organization being achieved?
3. What are the reasons for the success of the organization?
4. How does the Department plan to continue successful service delivery?

The Fire Department was first accredited on August 11th 2004. The Department began this most recent accreditation process on October 1st 2008 which ended successfully in Dallas. This is a very comprehensive process and involved hundreds of hours of staff time to complete. The Fire Chief's Management Team and the Fire Department are to be commended for their success in achieving it's Re-Accreditation. Division Chief Christopher Parrino deserves special recognition for serving as Accreditation Manager and assuring that all the documentation needed for this difficult process was obtained and on track with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's accreditation model.

Currently the City of Miami Beach is one of a select group of 9 Fire Departments worldwide who have achieved both internationally accredited status and a Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). There are presently 132 agencies which have attained accredited status. We can all be proud of our Fire Department's achievement which demonstrates a professional organization that provides assurances to peers and the public that the organization has defined missions and objectives and strives to meet or go beyond them.

Please let me know if you would like additional details or if you have any questions.

JMG\EY/jh